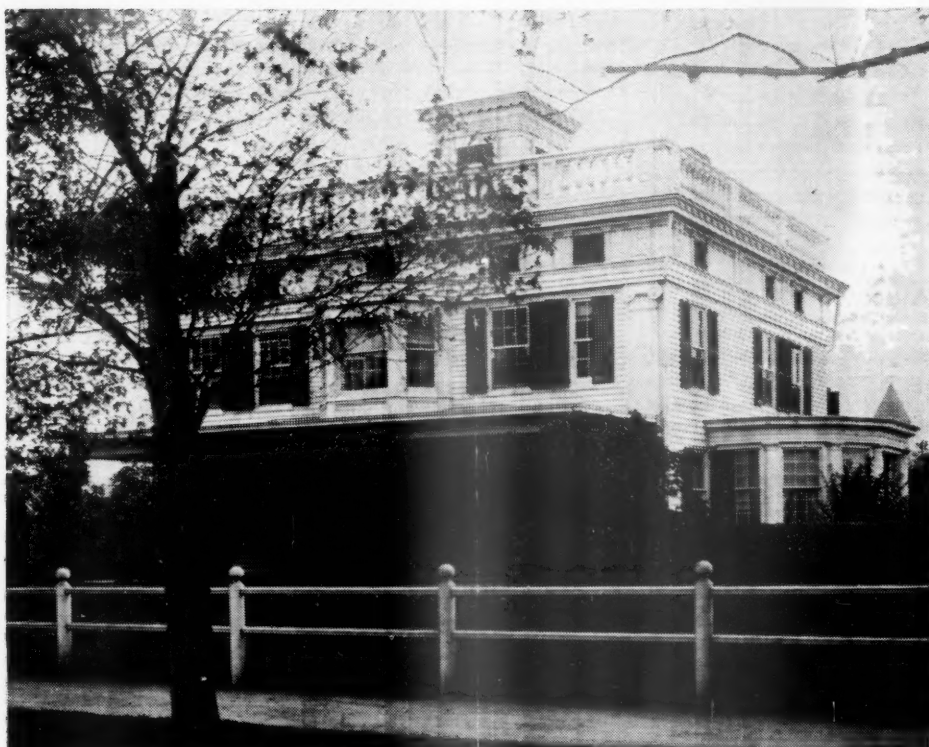


LONG ISLAND FORUM



The Captain Albert Rogers Homestead
Now the Southampton Historical Museum
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THE LONG ISLAND FORUM

Published Monthly at
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 Entered as second-class matter May 31, 1947, at the
 post office at Amityville, New York, under the Act of
 March 3, 1879.

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See Southampton June 25

The Southampton Historical Museum will stage a tour of historic places in that town Saturday, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 4:30. Hostesses will be at the Museum to greet visitors as they arrive. Settled in June 1640 by colonists from Lynn, Mass., who landed at Conscience Point, among the spots to be visited, this is one of the State's two oldest and most historic English towns.

The Museum itself occupies the Captain Rogers homestead which stands on the original family farmlands where Town Clerk William Rogers built the first home in 1648. Eight generations of the family have owned this land on which Captain Albert Rogers built the present house in 1843. On display are early American glass, silver, china, and many other items. The "widow's walk" atop the building is being restored.

On the grounds stands the oldest one-room schoolhouse in Suffolk County with its original desks, books and maps; also the Red Barn housing the Foster Collection of early farm implements, whaling outfits, trade shops, and the spinning and herb-drying rooms of the pioneer housewives. The Shinnecock Indian room, arranged by William Dunwell, president of the Museum, contains numerous artifacts. The barn, circa 1740, with its original timbers is an outstanding example of early farm architecture.

Among the historic houses to be visited is the Herrick homestead in which General William Erskine, British commander at the east end during the Revolution, had his headquarters in 1778-9. The old Dutch oven, corner cupboards and great fireplace remain. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Herrick, descendants of the builder.

Cooper Hall was built in the early 1800's by Captain Mercator Cooper who in 1945, as told in the Forum some years ago, commanded the first American ship ever to enter Japanese waters. It is now occupied by Mercator Cooper Kendrick and family, descendants of the Captain.

Among the town's old structures is the Squire Foster house of the

Continued on next page

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Local Weeklies of Long Ago

ANCIENT newspapers are like magic windows through which one may glimpse fleeting scenes from the life and times of long ago. It is an interesting paradox that while yesterday's newspaper may have lost much of its reader appeal, that same paper acquires a new fascination with the accumulation of years.

An important virtue of old newspapers is that they have perfect memories. They always tell the same story after fifty, seventy-five, or even a hundred years. This, unfortunately, is not always the case with human beings, whose memories play them tricks as age descends upon them. Also, many of our Long Island newspapers report events that occurred long before the time of anyone living today.

Thus we find that, quite unwittingly, the editors of our country newspapers of years ago made a valuable contribution to posterity simply by reporting the day by day happenings of their time.

An evening spent browsing through the pages of one of these old weeklies is almost like crossing the threshold of time into the forgotten world of yesterday. It is an adventure fraught with exciting possibilities. Nothing else can reveal, quite as vividly, the striking contrast of yesterday with today. Just to survey the old time-stained pages, with their quaint type, and feel the soft texture of the paper, and inhale the musty perfume it gives off, is enough to inspire thoughts of long ago. Then to read the miscellaneous items contained in the columns of this old newspaper is a fascinating pastime.

It must be remembered that in those days of a century ago the country weekly played a far more important role in the lives of individ-

Robert R. Coles

Editor's Note

Mr. Coles, for some years the head of the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History, is a well known lecturer on astronomy, geology and aboriginal life. Besides being a contributing editor of the Forum, he is the author of two worthwhile pamphlets, "The Long Island Indian" and "The Geology of Long Island."

uals and their families than it does today. In many homes

See Southampton June 25

Continued from page 102

early 1700's, now the Episcopal rectory, with its two ancient hitching posts out front and the very large beech tree from the wreck of the Louis Philippe at Mecox in 1842. There is also the Laurence Raynor house, built more than two centuries ago, containing the original walk-in fireplace, the stairway with narrow treads and hand-carved sides, and the hand-carved mantelpieces.

Still other houses to be seen are Hollyhock of 1660 and the Lewis Downs homestead of 1684, known as the White Farm. Besides these, there are the one-time shop of Elias Pelletreau, famous silversmith, and the Old Burying Ground dating back to the middle 1600's. Also St. Andrews Church, overlooking the ocean, once a life-

it was just about the only source of news and literary fare available. Its appearance was eagerly anticipated every week and each issue was thoroughly read. Often the verse and stories would be read aloud in the family circle—a nineteenth century substitute for television.

I shall include here just a few of the interesting items from some Long Island news-

Continued next page

saving station, and the Presbyterian Church, built in 1843 and containing the baptismal and communion silver used in the earliest building.

Among the gardens to be visited are those at the Mackie house of 1740, now the home of R. Van der Woude; the George Clark rose garden with more than 400 varieties, and the 100-acre estate of Dr. and Mrs. W. C. T. Gaynor where from the terraces of the Georgian residence, one may see Peconic Bay beyond the formal English landscaping, the sunken gardens, fountains and swimming pool.

Forum readers planning to attend this event should send checks to Mrs. Lloyd Dewey, Box 22, Hampton Bays, made payable to the Southampton Historical Museum. The cost is \$2.50 per person or, with sandwiches and coffee served on the Museum grounds, \$3.



Herrick Homestead, Southampton

papers of about a hundred years ago. No attempt has been made to follow any particular pattern in the selection of this material, except to provide the reader with a glimpse of north shore Long Island during the mid-nineteenth century.

The North Hempstead Gazette was a country weekly very typical of the times. This was printed at Roslyn, in what was then Queens County, and edited by John T. Cogswell and Eugene A. Hyde. The issue of July 21, 1849 contains much of interest to the antiquarian. This was a dozen years before the Civil War and it appears from the paper that most folks living in that part of Long Island were pretty much preoccupied with their own affairs.

This paper mirrors vividly the rural nature of the community at the time. It carried no screaming headlines and no illustrations, except for a few crude woodcuts in the advertising columns. As with many other country weeklies of the period, editors Cogswell and Hyde made generous use of the scissors and gluepot in preparing their copy and were not particularly concerned with the formality of crediting the sources of all their "borrowed" material.

Except for the appearance of "Special Supplements", at election time, the paper consisted of just four pages. The first page was filled largely with choice fiction, anecdotes, jokes and some lines of verse, often by anonymous poets of somewhat questionable talent. There were exceptions to this at times, however, when Roslyn's celebrated bard, William Cullen Bryant, could be prevailed upon to contribute something from his pen. Seldom, if ever did local news make the first page, being restricted usually to the two inside pages.

The news in these papers dealt with those matters of greatest concern to the local

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Cockenoe-de-Long-Island

WE was the first that I made use of to teach me words and to be my interpreter." This is the punchline of William Wallace Tooker's "Cockence - de - Long - Island," the biography of an eminent 17th century Long Island Indian, the brilliant assistant of New England's famed missionary John Eliot.

Less than a generation after the Pilgrim landing at Plymouth, John Eliot began to study Algonkian dialects in use in Massachusetts. For a while his teacher was Cockenoe, a Long Island Indian captured in the Pequot war. Eliot's primary objective was to train native missionaries, young men who could "convert their countrymen". (It was this same urge which led Eleazer Wheelock to train Samson Occum more than a century later).

Eliot realized that the New England Indians were members of a "loose confederation of languages," with practically the same modes of dress, customs and with the same basic tongue, Algonkian.

Although no extensive Long Island vocabularies have survived, all the evidence points to the fact that Montauks, Manhansetts, Shinnecocks, and Corchaugs used dialects very similar to those of southern New England; in fact, the Long Island savages were unwilling vassa's of the troublesome Pequots. So when Captain John Mason defeated the latter near Mystic in 1637, the Montauks joined forces with the English.

Just how a young Long Island Indian happened to be captured in Pequot territory is not clear. Perhaps Cockenoe was visiting in Connecticut and was rounded up with other redskins; perhaps he was being held as hostage by the Pequots. At any rate, he was sent to Dorchester and

Dr. John C. Huden

Editor's Note

Dr. Huden, a native of Sag Harbor, has long been connected with the historical and educational affairs of Vermont. For some years a professor at the University of Vermont, he has never lost interest in the island of his birth as evidenced by his research into the island's Indians, and his avocation of contributing editor of the Forum.

made a servant in Richard Calicott's home; the Pequot male captives were killed or sold as slaves.

The Rev. John Eliot wrote on February 12, 1649: "There is an Indian living with Sergeant Calicott, an Indian taken in the Pequot warres, although belonging to Long Island. This Indian is ingenious, can read and I taught him to write which he quickly learnt, though I know not what use he now maketh of it. He was the first I made use of to teach me words and to be my interpreter."

Cockenoe was probably freed in 1646 or 1647, at the age of twenty-five. This is

consistent with the legend that he was born "at Cromme Gaow (or Krum-Gow, Dutch for 'Crooked Coast', probably somewhere on Gardiner's Bay) the year the Dutch were searching for the Sagamore visited by Adriaen Block seven years before."

If Mr. Eliot ever saw Cockenoe after 1649 he must have been pleased with his interpreter, and vice versa. Without Cockenoe, Eliot probably would not have made such good progress translating Scripture; without Eliot, Cockenoe probably would not have achieved the skill as interpreter that made him so useful from Huntington to East Hampton, from Norwalk to Hartford, for at least two score years.

Where Cockenoe dwelled in 1647 is not known, but it is probable that he was on Long Island. On April 29, 1648 he witnessed a deed for all the land from the Southampton town line eastward to Napeague; as "Cheekanoo" he appeared as translator for the Sachems of Montauk, Shel-



Planting Time From Coles' "The Long Island Indian"

ter Island, Shinnecock, and Corchaug (Cutchogue).

Tooker, the famous Sag Harbor Algonkianist, makes it very plain in his book that the name Cockenoe means interpreter. "This name Cockenoe, Cheekanoo, Chickino, Chekkonou or Cockoo" — no matter how varied in the records, arises from an Algonkian root "Kuhkoo" or "Kehkoo", meaning "repeats what is said."

As interpreter or official spokesman, Cockenoe's name appeared on deeds in Norwalk, Ct., dated February 1652; there is an island bearing his name off Westport, Ct. In September 1652 "Checinoe Indian of Manhansick (Shelter) Island" came before the United Colonies Commissioners at Hartford, Ct., to protest encroachments by a certain Captain Middleton.

In 1653 "Checkinoe" and his first wife "Sunck Squa sister of old Mantauket sachem" were living at Shinnecock. About this time the Montauks and Shinnecocks were under suspicion of plotting with the Dutch to overthrow English rule, and the Montauks were fighting the Narragansetts. Apparently Cockenoe did not take part in either the Dutch conspiracy (if such existed) or the Rhode Island war.

The name "Chegonoe" appears in the Hempstead boundary settlements of 1657; as "Checknow" he witnessed several deeds in 1658. These variants probably resulted from town clerks' limited knowledge of Algonkian, or from Cockenoe's low-pitched voice, or both.

In April 1659 Cockenoe was paid ten shillings for his assistance in the "purchase of a plantation". This pay was eleven years overdue, but in 1658 he received "seventeen shillings, a coat, four pounds of gunpowder, six pounds of bullet-lead and a dutch hatchet", all to be given to "Chockanoe".

And so it went through the years. As "Sagamore Cockoo" he witnessed a deed for Ma-

nussing Island at the west end of Long Island Sound; other deeds show that he was much sought as interpreter in Smithtown, Brookhaven, Huntington. He did odd jobs harvesting *Sawhamon* (maize) and burning weeds at Montauk. His last verified signature, as far as we can discover, is that mentioned by Tooker, as witness on the deeds "for all Montauk" dated August 3, 1637. At this time Cockenoe was probably sixty-five years of age.

There is a legend that Cockenoe's friend, the Reverend Thomas James, conducted a service over the interpreter's grave, but where or when is not on record. If true, this legend would place Cockenoe's death before June of 1696, the date of Mr. James' demise.

So the death, as well as the birth of John Eliot's "pregnant witted Long Island Indian" is shrouded in obscurity, but his useful half century (1637-1687) is on record for those who care to read. From the time he was captured at Mystic until his grubby old age "burning grass over Menatauckett" he was a great help to English settlers all over Long Island.

One tantalizing question stands unanswered above all others: did Cockenoe, trained and skilled in translating Scriptures by John Eliot, help the Reverend Thomas James of East Hampton with missionary tracts? Were Mr. James' Catechisms, presumably lost at sea, partly of Cockenoe's compilation? Mr. James wrote at one time "As for these Indians, for my owne part I doe thinke they are as cordiale of the English as any in the country". And not the least of the good Dominie's Indian friends was Cockenoe-de-Long-Island.

Everyone enjoys reading the Forum so, and we would not give it up for anything. Hope you keep it going for a good many years to come. Charles Vanderveer 3rd, Hempstead.

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The Cuttings of Great River

IN the closing decades of the nineteenth century many wealthy residents of New York City purchased large tracts of land that formed part of the Nicoll Patent on the south shore of Long Island, lying along the upper waters of Great River, and stretching eastward through Oakdale, on which they built mansions to be used in the summer months. Among them were the Vanderbilt estate of Idle Hour, the large Bourne property, Pepperidge Hall, the Cutting place and others. The South Side Sportsman's Club also had and still has a large clubhouse in that vicinity.

William Bayard Cutting, lawyer, financier, railroad man, and an Alumnus and Trustee of Columbia College, purchased in 1882 a tract of 643 acres situated on the west shore of Great River and on both sides of the South Country Road and the L.I.R.R. tracks. He built a mansion, in the Elizabethan style, on the west bank of the river, which was completed in 1886, and named Westbrook.

Before golf became popular in this country, he laid out a golf course on one of the large plots north of the country road, and a club called the Westbrook Golf Club was organized and played there for several years, until it was finally abandoned and the land turned back to farming purposes. Another large house was built north of the country road which was used for several years by Robert Fulton Cutting and his family as a summer residence.

When the Cuttings were in residence they were very regular in attendance at the services in Emmanuel Church at Great River, and Mr. Cutting was one of the five men who each year made up the difference between the operating expenses of that church and the deficit incurred, as the in-

John Tooker

Editor's Note

Mr. Tooker, a retired LIRR man of many years service, has made Long Island history his hobby for more than half a century. Much of the information that he uses comes from careful research and his own scrapbooks.

habitants of the village were too few to support it.

Among the many employees of the Cutting estate was a Scotchman who was an expert plowman before the day of the mechanical gang-plow. He would place a tall stake at one side of a forty-acre lot, and then from the opposite side he would slowly and carefully guide the team, hitched to the plow, across the lot in the meantime keeping his eye on the distant stake. When he had finished the first furrow it would be as straight as if laid out by a surveyor, and the subsequent furrows, parallel to it, would make the whole field look like a work of art.

William Bayard Cutting was married in 1877 to Olivia

Murray, daughter of Bronson and Ann Eliza Peyton Murray of Ottawa, Ill., and they had four children, William Bayard, Olivia, Justine and Bronson. William Bayard Jr. served for many years in the American Embassy at London, married a titled English lady by whom he had issue, and died several years ago. Bronson, the youngest child in time became a United States Senator from New Mexico. William Bayard Cutting Sr. died on a Sante Fe train in 1912, and Senator Bronson Cutting died in the crash of an airliner in Missouri in 1935.

At the time of her son's death Mrs. Cutting refused the \$10,000 appropriation ordinarily made by the Senate to next of kin of the deceased, explaining that she would not feel justified in taking the taxpayers' money for such a purpose. She survived her husband thirty-seven years and the whole of that period was devoted to philanthropic

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Cutting Lodge, from Marshall Woodman Photo of 1896

General Pearsall of Roslyn

James Buchanan Pearsall's early boyhood was spent in Roslyn where his parents lived on what is now the estate of Rear-Admiral Aaron Ward. The Pearsall family was among the original settlers of North Hempstead town. James was also a direct descendant of General Nathaniel Coles, a native of Locust Valley, who became a leading merchant in the China trade.

While James Buchanan Pearsall was still a youth his family moved to New York and took up residence on Wall Street. They also had a "country estate" at Fifty-ninth street and the future General had a team of goats which he drove between the two homes, allowing them at intervals to brouse along Broadway. His grandfather owned Jones' Woods, which stood opposite Blackwell's Island,

much of which the General inherited.

As a young man, after spending a few years in Charleston, S.C., General Pearsall became a broker in New York and took up politics. He was a close friend of Samuel J. Tilden and when the latter was elected Governor in 1874 he appointed the General as his aide. Later, Governor Lucius Robinson appointed him engineer-in-chief of the State, with the rank of Brigadier General. Pearsall also played an important part in Tilden's campaign for the Presidency.

After returning to live in North Hempstead town, the General became active in the Democratic party there and served two terms as Assemblyman representing what was then Queens County. He played an active part, too, in the development of Glen Cove as an area of large country estates. For sixteen years he was a member of the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in that community. He died in his 89th year at his Glen Cove estate, Afterthoughts.

Horace K. T. Sherwood
Long Beach, Cal.

Note: Mr. Sherwood, one time mayor of Glen Cove, is dipping into his notes and memory at the editor's request.

Forum Articles Cited

Among historical articles published in this State during the last quarter of 1954 cited by James Taylor Dunn, Librarian of the State Historical Association, were the following from the Long Island Forum:

A Nassau County Landmark,

L. I. FORUM INDEX

The Queens Borough Public Library, 89-14 Parsons Blvd., Jamaica, sells a complete index of the Long Island Forum for the years 1938-1947 inclusive, at \$1 postpaid. Also for the years 1948-1952 inclusive, at 50 cents postpaid. They were compiled by Miss Marguerite V. Doggett, Librarian L. I. Collection, and may be obtained by addressing her at the Library.

and Some Matinecock Place-Names, by Robert R. Coles.

Boy's Trip to New York in 1897, by Eugene S. Griffing.

The Battle of St. George's Manor, by Roland Lohse.

Shinnecock Canal of 1886, by John H. Sutter.

He Knew Peconic Mill, by Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood.

Poet of Paumanok, by William Wrigg.

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Some Old Southold Mills

THE settlers of Long Island employed horse and ox power and later the power of changing tides, flowing water and the wind to grind grain, saw wood, produce oil from flaxseed and to wash and card wool for housewives to spin and weave into clothing.

On the "horse mill lot" at the northwest corner of Main street and Youngs avenue in the village of Southold, where now stands the Southold Savings Bank, such a mill was erected very early in the history of the community, but the identity of the owners is not a matter of record. It stood somewhere on the property of William Wells, the recorder. Also on this 4½ acre plot during much of the 19th century stood the hotel conducted by a descendant, Benjamin Wells.

The lot next west was first owned by John Conklin and later successively by Richard Clark and John and William Salmon. The latter and his brother Gideon of Oysterponds (Orient) were of the fifth generation from the William Salmon who in 1863, together with the Terry, Benedict, Corey and other families, had settled Ashamomoque.

As early as 1655 mariner John Herbert, baker Barnabas Horton and John Peaken (Peck) financed the erection of a mill in the settlement. In 1679 the townspeople voted a mill site on Pine Neck road to Joshua Horton, Abraham Corey and Daniel Terry. Just prior to 1700 a small windmill was built on Hallock's Neck, supposed landing place of the founding fathers, later called L'Hommedieu's Neck and now known as Founders Landing.

Mills driven by wind were a source of bewilderment to the Corchaug Indians who came from about the town to sit for days at a time to watch

Dr. Clarence Ashton Wood

Editor's Note

Dr. Wood, senior contributing editor of the Forum since shortly after his retirement from the legal research department of the State Court of Appeals, is a native of Setauket who spent his youthful years as an orphan on a Southold farm. Before being admitted to the Bar, he served as schoolmaster and journalist.

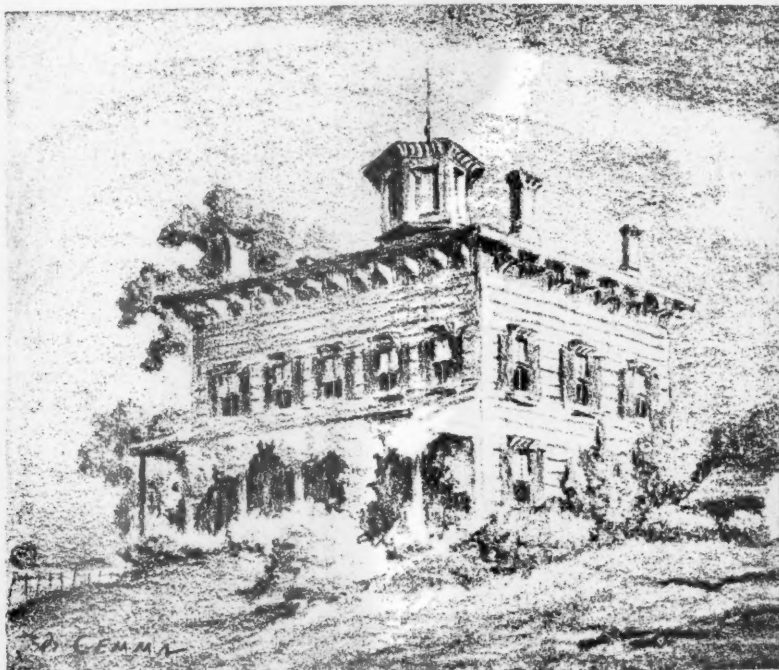
and wonder at the power supplied by what they thought were spirits inside the works. The windmill on Hallock's Neck was authorized at a town meeting December 17, 1694, when two acres of land for the purpose were granted to Benjamin L'Hommedieu, Joseph Reeve and Simon Glover (spelled Grover in the records).

L'Hommedieu, grandsire of the Hon. Benjamin L'Homme-

dieu of the Revolution, was a French Huguenot merchant who had previously lived at New Rochelle in Westchester as had his half-brother Jean Boisseau. Joseph Reeve, son of Thomas and Mary (Furrer) Reeve, was a blacksmith and prominent in town affairs. Symon or Simon Glover was the forebear of many local Glovers. These three men agreed to build a mill on Hallock's Neck and to grind local corn before that of "strangers," taking such toll as set "by the government." Thirty-four local persons agreed to patronize them.

It was erected east of where in modern times stood the wharf of Jonathan Barnes Terry at which steamboats stopped for passengers and produce as they did at Sag

Continued on page 118



The Wells Homestead, Southold
From Etching by Jos. Di Gemma

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Greenport's Early Phones

Some months ago a very interesting article relating to early telephone offices in Brooklyn and Long Island and written by John Tooker appeared in the Forum. Some time later, my old friend May Brooks Tabor of Orient wrote about the "hello boys" and requested me to write something about these early telephone days, so here goes:

Prior to 1905, the Greenport central office was located in the southwest show window of George H. Corwin's drug store. Miss Nellie Whitcomb acted as both Western Union and New York and New Jersey Telephone Co. operator from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. After 8 P.M., until the drug store closed, either Joe Moore or Will Merrill, both clerks in the drug store, would answer the switchboard.

At this time, the telephone company decided to extend service to twenty-four hours. Mr. Corwin then moved the office to a rear room and provided another one for Western Union. This work was completed by the firm of Wells & Butler, carpenters and builders, who maintained a carpenter shop at the corner of East Front and Carpenter Street. This shop held a great interest to the writer.

Miss Percie Butler was chosen as Chief Operator with Mary Ging and Lyndall Dutcher as assistants and yours truly handled the night shift from 7 to 7 for \$5.00 a week, office boy duties included.

Some of the early "hello girls" were Bess Corwin, Ethel Havens, Mary Mouhot, Ethel Young, Daisy Cook, Anna and Lillian Ging and Alice Garvey.

A nice folding cot was furnished and a very disturbing night bell was installed on the large cabinet haze head.

When a call came in on the switchboard, this bell would let loose and arouse you from slumberland and you had to answer the call.

The office was again moved to a new addition that Mr. Corwin erected further back of the drug store so that our entrance was made from Carpenter St. I believe later it was moved to the Lyon's building, corner of Main & Front Streets and from there to their own new building at corner of Third and South Streets.

The Company sent a Mr. Garvey as their contract agent, whose duty it was to obtain new subscribers. I believe many of these subscribers still have the same numbers.

Capt. E. B. Tuthill of East Marion had purchased a "Victor"

Continued on next page

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victrola with a great variety of Red Seal records. His son Ben, my school chum, would call and ask if I wanted to hear some music. He would leave the receiver off the hook and this would help wile away the time for the writer. The favorites were "Blue Danube", "Stars and Stripes Forever", "Alexander's Rag Time Band", and a quartet singing "The Old Rugged Cross."

Some time later, about 1906, The Orient Congregational Church called a Mr. John A. Gray as their pastor. He had not been there long when a very bad blizzard came up on Friday afternoon lasting all night and Saturday. This made the roads almost impassible and no one could get out to church. So as not to get cheated out of Sunday Service, Mr. Gray called the writer and inquired if the telephone lines could be hooked together so that he could hold his Sunday service. The writer informed him that it was possible, however he would have to call the Chief Operator for telephone service.

At this time, the Company had one party line to East Marion and Orient. At East Marion it was located in the General Store of B. C. Tutthill, long since razed; in Orient, the Mount Pleasant Hotel, E. F. Dewey's Barber Shop, and the Halyoke Farm, L. H. Hallock. It was the intention of the Company to establish Farmers Lines to this area at a cost of twelve dollars a year with Greenport calls free. There were four such lines, one 23F for East Marion, 29F Orient Village, 42F to Orient Point, and one 46F to Southold.

Among the very first phones installed were Daniel T. Tutthill's homestead at the curve at Orient Point, Capt. E. B. Tutthill, and Capt. F. J. Tutthill at East Marion; George H. Dickerson on the north road at Southold and my father Osmun W. Young on the North Road at Greenport. These lines were signalled in the office by a set of bells, each one with a different tone. The custom those days was to call by name in place of numbers, so the operators had to memorize many of the numbers. Many of these numbers still remain.

Mr. Gray held his church service over the phone lines and as far as I can learn, the honor of having the first broadcast over the air goes to Orient Congregational Church.

Much water has passed over the dam since then and the writer still holds many pleasant memories of those good old east end people of fifty years ago.

With every good wish for continued success of your great Forum, I remain

Arch Young
Mineola

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He Did T. R.'s Plumbing

When I read John Tooker's letter in the April Forum about the "antiquated plumbing" at Sagamore Hill, T. R.'s famous home at Oyster Bay, I was prompted to write this letter.

About two months ago I visited Sagamore Hill for the first time in more than fifty years. Imagine my surprise when I looked in the kitchen and noticed the same sink that was installed by Frank Nickels of Cold Spring Harbor and myself, his helper, about 1896.

I remember as if it was yesterday, for it was one of the first plumbing jobs I was a helper on. Frank did not know I was so new to the work. He handed me the two brass thimbles to be wiped on the lead pipe to screw the faucets in, saying, "Put sticks in these and trim them."

The purpose of the sticks was to make a handle about a foot long to hold the brass while it was being made fast to the lead. Being new at the job, I thought he wanted them plugged up. I drove the sticks in and sawed them off on both ends. Do you wonder that I remember it so well?

B. T. Ebbets, Copiague

New York's Big Fire

My grandfather told me long ago that he remembered when New York City was destroyed by fire just before the outbreak of the Civil War. Is this a matter of record?

(Mrs.) Carrie P. Holtz
Note: He probably referred to the fire of 1835, which occurred in zero weather, and burned down the entire city below Wall street.

Sprague's Local Heritage

(Replying to F.P.K.) J. Russel Sprague, who wrote the chapter on the Nassau County Charter which appears in Bailey's L. I. History, and who, incidentally, is Republican leader of Nassau County, is, according to Nassau County Historian Jesse Merritt, a direct descendant of John Spragg, early settler of Hempstead town. Editor.

When Tea Was New

John Lyon Gardiner, seventh proprietor of Gardiner's Island, wrote under date of June 5, 1794, that his overseer's mother, a Mrs. Miller, born a Hedges, remembered when tea was first introduced at the east end. Some spread the leaves on bread and butter. When a vessel named the Captain Bell was wrecked at Montauk and somebody salvaged a tea kettle, local residents decided that it was some sort of lamp.

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Long Ago Weeklies

Continued from Page 104

residents and included reports of local catastrophes, vagaries of the weather, politics, the progress being made in trying to induce the railroad company to extend a line to that part of the island, and similar matters. In addition to strictly local news there were also reports of happenings in other parts of Long Island and from the world at large.

Among other items in this issue of the Gazette is the report of a fire that destroyed "the barn and hovel of Mr. George Downing, of North Side". There is also a report of the number of deaths from cholera in New York during the week.

The following notice, appearing on page four, indicates that crime was a problem then, as it is today.

Five Hundred Dollars Reward

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors, and for the county of Queens, at the office of their clerk on the third of March, 1849.

Resolved, That a reward of Five Hundred Dollars be paid to any person or persons who will furnish the information that will lead to the apprehension and conviction of the murderer or murderers of the family of Jonathan Miller in the town of Hempstead on the fifteenth day of February last.

A true copy of the minutes
Pierpont Potter, Clerk

Among the advertisements are those placed by retail dealers in dry goods, hardware, groceries and many other essentials similar to those in demand today. In addition to these, however, are items that would inspire comment if advertised in today's

papers, especially in that part of Long Island. These include the notices of saddle and harness makers, the manufacturers of carriages and sleighs, blacksmiths, manufacturers of farming equipment and retail merchants offering grain and feed. In addition to these items there were several advertisements for patent medicines, claimed to heal practically every ailment of man or beast.

This was some years before the extension of the railroad to that part of the island. Transportation to New York was largely by coach or steamboat. This issue of the Gazette contains an announcement of the schedule of the steamboat Washington Irving, which ran between the Fulton market slip, in New York, and Roslyn, with stops of call enroute.

The Glen Cove Plaindealer

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and Oyster Bay Standard was another country weekly of about the same period. This appeared every Friday and was published and edited by Mr. James L. Crowley. As stated in its masthead, this paper was "Neutral in Politics and Devoted to News, Agriculture, Science, Morality, and Everything of General Interest to the Casual Reader or Family Circle". This seems to be pretty all-inclusive except that perhaps Editor Crowley might have announced that his paper was also against sin.

Its makeup is similar to that of the North Hempstead Gazette, with the exception that it carried a somewhat greater variety of advertisements.

In the issue of April 29, 1853, there is an interesting reference to the whaling industry, that reads as follows:

"Arrival of a Whaler—The bark Bayard, Graham, Master, arrived at Greenport on Thursday last, from the Sandwich Islands via Babia, with a cargo of 1900 barrels of whale oil. The vessel had sent home previously 1000 barrels of whale and 40,000 pounds bone."

In the same issue there is also notice that the North Hempstead Plank Road Company intends to request permission of the Supervisors of Queens County for authority to lay a plank road from the entrance of Dutch Lane, in

Newtown, through the town of Flushing and part of North Hempstead to a point on the Jericho turnpike at or near the dwelling house of Robert Titus. The total length of this road was to be fourteen miles.

Another oldtime weekly that provides much interesting data about old Long Island is The Glen Cove Gazette, edited by E. M. Lincoln.

The following news item in the issue of September 24, 1854, indicates that hurricanes were with us in those days and of more than casual interest to the countryfolk.

"All doubts as to the strength of the steamer Long Island were put to rest Saturday night last, at which time she made her usual trip to this place in spite of the hurricane. The passengers aboard state that she behaved in a beautiful style in the heavy seas off 'old hen and chickens', and pronounced her a first rate sea-boat. The Long Island was the only boat that passed Sands' Point on the night named."

Among the various items advertised in this issue of the Gazette were such essentials to comfort and safety as par-

lor stoves and lightning rods. There are also announcements by the operators of grist and saw mills.

There was considerable interest at this time in having the railroad extended to the north shore of Long Island, at least as far as Roslyn and

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Glen Cove, and the local weeklies carried numerous announcements of public meetings for the purpose of getting this accomplished.

Also, by this time, Long Islanders were becoming aware of the issues that would lead eventually to the outbreak of the Civil War. The following item in the Gazette of November 5, 1859, indicated something of the strained relations that prevailed at the time:

"Old John Brown has been found guilty of treason, advising and conspiring with slaves and others to rebel, and for murder in the first degree. His Council moved for an arrest of judgement both on account of errors in the indictment and errors in the verdict. He was sentenced to be hung on the first day of December next."

Quite as interesting as the news are the many advertisements and notices published in these old weeklies. For example, The Glen Cove Gazette of March 19, 1859 contains the following:

"J. Kirk & Co., proprietor of the Glen Cove Mill, offers the highest market prices for

2000 bushels each of wheat, rye and oats."

"J. J. Hoffman announces that his shaving and hair cutting saloon is now located in the west end of the Post-office Building, and that he is prepared to receive calls from those who are in want of his services. By strict attention to his business he hopes to merit a liberal share of the public patronage."

The Old U. S. M. Line of Stages announces that it is running on a regular schedule between Roslyn and Hempstead Branch where patrons may obtain transportation to

Brooklyn via the L. I. Railroad. (The community then called Hempstead Branch is now Mineola.)

J. M. Weeks announces that he will exchange all kinds of Rags, Old Iron, Brass, Copper or the more "precious metals" for country produce.

These are just a few of the many interesting items to be found in the columns of those old country weeklies of the mid-nineteenth century on Long Island. But for the efforts of their editors many highlights of that long ago time would be forever lost and forgotten.

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Exhibit Opens June 4 At Traphagen

June is the month of brides and here is something for the occasion . . . from North Africa. It is a Berber wedding dress and veil — white but with a contrast to the airy laces and organdies of America. The jewel pieces on ankle, wrist, head and at neck are of heavy silver set with chunky coral, beautiful and barbaric. This is an authentic costume from the Museum Collection of the Traphagen School of Fashion, and is one of the many used by its students to supply ideas for modern design. Much of today's costume jewelry was originally derived from the Traphagen collection when shown at the American Museum of Natural History.

The school's Annual Exhibition will be on view June 4 through 18, and it has been arranged to serve as a blueprint for the uninitiated in fashion. Covered are the many branches which careers may take in today's \$20-billion fashion industry, illustrated by extensive displays of student work, examples of the necessary training, and research material from the school's collection and library. There is, of course, no charge for admission.

At Traphagen, 1680 Broadway (52nd St.), New York, classes will continue throughout the summer with a six-week intensive course in Costume Design and Illustration opening in the Art Department July 11. In the Clothing Construction Department where draping, design, dressmaking and pattern-making are taught, students may start short or long courses at any time during the summer months. Visitors are always welcome.

Very Rare L. I. Book

"A Faithful Narrative of the Remarkable Revival of Religion, in the Congregation of Easthampton, on Long-Island, in the year of Our Lord, 1764; With Some Reflections", by Samuel Budell, D. D. Printed 1808 by Alden Spooner, Sag Harbor. The book also contains sketches of the author's life, and other material including an account of the Revival in Bridgehampton and East Hampton in 1800. Address Long Island Forum.

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The Cuttings

Continued from page 107

and civic activities by that charming, and gracious lady.

Soon after her husband's death she established Traveling Fellowships at Columbia University in his honor. She also sponsored a series of lectures on important issues to be given for three years in Washington, and to be known as The Bronson Cutting Memorial Lectures. She established a Memorial Scholarship at Harvard in the name of Senator Cutting who had been a member of the class of 1910.

Mrs. Cutting contributed large sums to such organizations as the Emergency Unemployment Committee, the Citizens Family Welfare Committee, the Red Cross and a host of others. She was for many years chairman of the South Suffolk Chapter of The American Red Cross, and was a trustee of the East Islip Public School from 1920 to 1930. She also served as chairman of the Sybil Carter Lace Committee established to promote the teaching of fine lace-making at various Indian centers throughout the United States. Miss Sybil Carter had a home in Great River in which she frequently rested from her missionary labors.

In recognition of her support of projects to improve parks and gardens in the City of New York, Mrs. Cutting in 1938 received a certificate of merit from the Park Association. She belonged to several clubs, and was one of the founders of The Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions in the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

In 1947, when 92 years old, she posed beside a glass case in The Museum of The City of New York which contained a gown that she had donated to the museum, and which she had worn at a ball in 1889 to celebrate the centennial of the inauguration of President Washington.

Although Mrs. Cutting had

a town house at 24 East Seventy-Second Street, New York, she must have loved her Westbrook home for she was still living there on November 15, 1949, when she died at the age of 94 after a long life filled with good works. Her funeral was held at St. James Episcopal Church, Madison Ave. and Seventy-first St. in New York, on November 18, 1949.

The Bayard H. Cutting Aboretum at Great River, now a part of the Long Island State Park system, was a bequest of Mrs. Cutting whose husband commenced this large horticultural collection many years ago.

It has been claimed (though I cannot vouch for it) that Mr. Cutting was of the family of William B. Cutting who joined with Robert Fulton of steamboat fame in founding several East River ferry lines about 1800. Also that of this family was the Rev. Leonard Cutting, rector of St. George's Episcopal Church at Hempstead during the Revolution.

Griffing Like Conrad

Your author Captain Eugene S. Griffing writes with the exciting pen if not all the finesse of a Joseph Conrad. His description of "Battling a Gale in 1901" (in

February Forum) has the added attraction of being authentic and from first hand observation.

C. R. P., Patchogue.

In telling the story of James L. Scudder, Huntington Artist, in the March issue of the Forum, Mrs. (Martha K.) Hall, Librarian of the Huntington Historical Society, revealed another native L. I. artist of whom too little had been known. F. F. Wickham, Levittown.

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Memorial of the Late Hon. David S. Jones, containing data on Jones Family of Massapequa. By W. A. Jones. 1849.

Historic Long Island (Rufus Rockwell Wilson) 1902.

Long Island Forum

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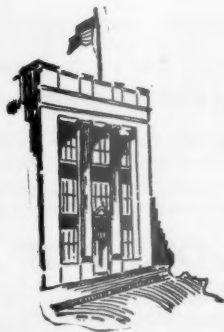
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Southold Mills

Continued From Page 109

Harbor, Greenport, Shelter Island and Orient, before proceeding through the Sound enroute to New York. To this mill farmers from Mattituck to Oysterponds brought their grain before the first mill was built at Orient about 1700.

In 1718 Jasper Griffing bequeathed his son Edward land, including a windmill, on the west side of Town Harbor lane, nearly opposite the L'Hommedieu house on Hallock's Neck. This property subsequently passed into the family of Daniel Tuthill. The house thereon, destroyed by fire in 1918, was the boyhood home of Augustus Griffin, first of his line to drop the final g from the family name. His later home at Orient is now known as Village House, headquarters of the Oysterponds Historical Society.

Augustus Griffin was the auctioneer who in 1820 sold the Capt. David Webb farm which became the nucleus of Greenport, first called Stirling. He also wrote Griffin's Journal, a valuable compendium of east end lore published in 1857. In it he wrote that for forty years he had been "intimate and on the most friendly terms" with Squire Frederick Chase of Shelter Island and that the latter had held several public offices "without a stain." My interest in island history stems from learning in my 69th year that Squire Chase and his wife Rebecca (Cartwright) Chase were my paternal grandparents. As I write, I have ever before me their portraits.

There were "a great many windmills" in the neighborhood of Southold by 1744, according to a Dr. Alexander Hamilton who that year with two companions from Virginia

rode horseback from Jamaica to Oysterponds, enroute by ferry to Connecticut. About 1828 a mill with an up-and-down saw was erected on the north side of Pine Neck road in Southold by George Wells Phillips who moved his home on the north road at Ashamomoque to the new site. Before 1830 this two-story mill building, purchased by Albert Goldsmith, father of Salem D. Goldsmith, was moved to his premises and there used as a carriage-house, shop and granary. On the previous site of the mill Herbert W. Simons in 1898 built a house for G. W. Phillips.

In the early 1830s a mill was built east of Town Harbor lane by John Galvin Wells Jr.

Its operator, James Corwin, was the father of John Conklin Corwin who married Ruth Booth of Ashamomoque. Later the mill's upright arms were made horizontal, but were finally abandoned for a steam engine before the structure was burned down, ending this industry on L'Hommedieu Neck.

Other mills that have come to my attention include a windmill owned by William Salmon, father of Stephen C., near his home, later acquired by Sereno H. Smith and brother. Also a mill purchased by Thomas Ledyard, near kin of John Ledyard the Traveler, which was moved to his home on Boisseau avenue and used as a carpenter shop.

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Southold Farm was Bombarded

About 1812 when my grand-
father Alvah Mulford was a baby,
one Sunday morning his Aunt
Phoebe was left to care for him
at the farm, east of Southold, while
the family attended the old South-
old First Church. To her consterna-
tion Aunt Phoebe suddenly saw
a British vessel drop anchor off-
shore and begin firing. Taking Al-
vah in her arms, she ran into the
village warning others that the
British were coming.

By the time enough men assem-
bled, the ship had gone after its
men had looted some of the homes,
leaving on the shore a deaf and
dumb slave girl named Bloom who
belonged to my great-grandfather
Abraham Mulford Jr. (1781-1864).
One shot fired by the British
raider struck the Mulford house
and the beam showing the hole is
at the L. I. Historical Society in
Brooklyn. Another slave of Abra-
ham Mulford was a feeble-minded
youth named Cuff who, after the
bombardment, was found in the
barn with his head buried in the
hay.

Mrs. Roland C. Horton
Cutchogue

Reader Collects Autographs

I can always use autographs by
famous persons and am especially
interested in those of the Presi-
dents; also of early colonial New
York. Should fellow Forum sub-
scribers come across any, I would
appreciate hearing from them.
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